

DEC 22 2004

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 07781.0040-00000

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Gert RUSCH et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2163  
)  
Application No.: 09/989,070 ) Examiner: Uyen T. LE  
)  
Filed: November 21, 2001 ) Confirmation No.: 9748  
)  
For: METHOD, COMPUTER )  
PROGRAM PRODUCT AND )  
COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR A )  
SINGLE DATABASE SYSTEM TO )  
SUPPORT MULTIPLE )  
APPLICATION SYSTEMS )

**Mail Stop AF**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a timely first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114 and three-month Suspension of Action under § 1.103(c) in the above-referenced application.

Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

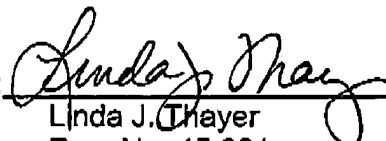
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 22, 2004

By:

  
Linda J. Thayer  
Reg. No. 45,681

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>			
				Application Number		09/989,070	
				Filing Date		November 21, 2001	
				First Named Inventor		Gert RUSCH et al.	
				Art Unit		2163	
				Examiner Name		Uyen LE	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		7781.0040-00	

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,898,883	04/27/1999	Fujii et al.	
		US-6,272,812 B1	08/07/2001	Bordaz et al.	
		US-5,897,635	04/27/1999	Torres et al.	

**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.